

Message Text

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JCS/J-5:COL CONNELL (INFO)

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TO USMISSION NATO

INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

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TAGS: NATO, PFOR, MOPS, SP

SUBJECT: NATO-SPANISH COOPERATION

REF: (A) USNATO 3199

(B) OSLO 2533

(C) MADRID 3841

(D) ROME 5938

(E) THE HAGUE 3042

1. WE CONCUR WITH SCENARIO PROPOSED BY MISSION IN
REF A, BUT SUGGEST THAT STEPS INVOLVING SPECIFIC

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AREAS OF COOPERATION (SPANISH OBSERVERS AT NATO

EXERCISES, SPANISH AIR FORCE PERSONNEL VISITS TO NADGE SITES, ETC.) MENTIONED AT PARA 2D, REF A, COULD BE IMPLEMENTED EVEN BEFORE DPC APPROVAL FOR THE PROPOSED NATO NAVAL EXERCISE.

2. IF THE EXPANSION OF BILATERAL TO MULTINATIONAL EXERCISES IS TO HAVE THE DESIRED CONSEQUENCES, THE CHANGE SHOULD COME QUICKLY.

3. WE ALSO AGREE THAT A PERMREPS LUNCH MIGHT WELL OFFER THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENGAGE IN A MORE OPEN DISCUSSION, BUT WOULD APPRECIATE MISSION EVALUATION OF POSSIBILITY OF FIRST ENGAGING IN INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS

AT PERMREP LEVEL WITH NETHERLANDS, NORWEGIAN AND DANISH PERMREPS IN ORDER CORRECT APPARENT MISUNDERSTANDING OF OUR POLITICAL OBJECTIVES RE SPAIN. IN SUCH DISCUSSIONS FOLLOWING POINTS COULD BE MADE:

A. USG DOES NOT RPT NOT ENVISAGE SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE, BUT BELIEVES THAT THE TIME WILL COME WHEN SPANISH MEMBERSHIP WILL BE ACCEPTED BY ALL MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE.

B. EVENTUAL SPANISH MEMBERSHIP IN NATO IS DESIRABLE, NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF CONTRIBUTION SPAIN CAN MAKE TO COMMON DEFENSE, BUT ALSO IN ORDER ENSURE THAT SPAIN CONTINUES MAINTAIN WESTERN POLITICAL ORIENTATION RATHER THAN ADOPTING THIRD-WORLD OR NEUTRALIST STANCE.

C. BETWEEN NOW AND TIME SPANISH ENTRY INTO NATO IS FEASIBLE, WE SHOULD ESTABLISH LIMITED AND INFORMAL BUT PRACTICAL LINKS BETWEEN SPAIN AND NATO IN ORDER ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT THOSE ELEMENTS IN SPAIN WHO SEEK GREATER LIBERALIZATION INTERNALLY (AN OBJECTIVE SHARED BY SPAIN'S PRESENT CRITICS IN NATO) AND WHO DESIRE SEE SPAIN FULLY INTEGRATED INTO EUROPE.

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